## AMENDMENT

**In the Claims**

Please amend the claims as indicated below:

1. (Twice amended) A transgenic mouse, the cells of which comprise at least one endogenous altered LXRα allele that cannot express LXRα polypeptide that responds to dietary cholesterol.

2. (Twice amended) The transgenic mouse of claim 1, wherein said cells comprise two endogenous altered LXRα alleles that cannot express LXRα polypeptides that respond to dietary cholesterol.

21. (Amended) A method for screening a candidate substance for the ability to reduce cholesterol levels in a mammal comprising:

(a) providing a transgenic mouse, the cells of which comprise at least one endogenous altered LXRα allele that cannot express LXRα polypeptide that responds to dietary cholesterol;

(b) treating said mouse with said candidate substance; and

(c) monitoring a cholesterol-related phenotype in said mouse,

wherein a reduction in said cholesterol-related phenotype in said mouse treated with said candidate substance, as compared to a similar mouse not treated with said candidate substance, indicates that said candidate substance reduces cholesterol levels.

26. (Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein said cells comprise two endogenous altered LXRα alleles that cannot express LXRα polypeptides that respond to dietary cholesterol.

27. (Amended) A method for screening a candidate substance for the ability to increase bile acid synthesis in a mammal comprising:

(a) providing a transgenic mouse, the cells of which comprise at least one endogenous altered LXRα allele that cannot express LXRα polypeptide that responds to dietary cholesterol;

(b) treating said mouse with said candidate substance; and

(c) monitoring a bile acid-related phenotype in said mouse,

wherein an increase in said bile acid-related phenotype in said mouse treated with said candidate substance, as compared to a similar mouse not treated with said candidate substance, indicates that said candidate substance increases bile acid synthesis.

44. (Amended) A transgenic mouse cell which comprises at least one endogenous altered LXRα allele that cannot express LXRα polypeptide that responds to dietary cholesterol.